

A NEW VARIETY OF *ANDROGRAPHIS NEESIANA* WT. FROM MADRAS STATE

Andrographis neesiana Wt. var. *rotundifolia* Sreem. var. nov.

Accedit varietati *neesianae*, a qua tamen differt caulibus profuse ramosis, foliis minoribus brevissime petiolatis rotundis vel suborbicularibus ad apicem obtusis, ad basin rotundis vel subcordatis, nervorum jugis 4-5.

Herba erecta, 35-50 cm alta; *culmi* 2-3 mm crassi, profuse ramosi, sparse scabri, densius in partibus junioribus, fusce viridinigri cum sicci, obscure 4-angulares, saepe radicales ad nodos inferiores; nodi paulum tumescentes dense brunneo-pilosi. *Folia* 1.3-3.5 × 1-3.3 cm, opposita, rotunda vel suborbicularia, chartacea, minutim puberula in utraque pagina, ad apicem obtusa, ad basin rotunda vel subcordata, ad margines integra pilis dispersis aduncis e basi tumescente oriundis, nervorum jugis 4-5; petioli 1-2 mm longi, scabri. *Flores* plures in paniculis terminalibus subcapitatis spissatis; pedunculi breves, dense glandulari-hispidi; pedicelli 3-5 mm longi, paulo longiores sub fructu, dense glandulari-hispidi. *Bractaeae* ± 2 mm, ovato-lanceolatae, acutae, dense glandulari-hispidae. *Bracteolae* duae, 1.5 × 0.5 mm, lineari-oblongae vel oblongo-lanceolatae, acutae, dense glandulari-hispidae. *Calycis* lobi 5, ca. 5 × 1 mm, fere usque ad basin divisi, lineari-oblongi, acuti, glandulari-hispidi. *Corolla* 1.2-1.4 cm longa, pallide crenea, lineis et maculis purpureis intus notata, ventricosa, eminenter bilabiata, labio superiore paulum bifido, inferiore vero distincte tri-loba, dense glandulari-pubescent extus, minus dense intus. *Stamina* bina; filamenta dense hispida ad basin, sparse ad apicem; antherae duorum staminum adhaerentes in alabastro, dithecae, thecis subaequalibus, albo-barbatis. *Ovarium* biloculare, elliptico-oblongum vel oblongum, hispidum; stylus penitus hispidus; stigma minute bifidum. *Capsula* 1.8-2 × 0.5 cm, lineari-oblonga vel oblonga, dense glandulari-hispida. *Semina* ca. 2 mm diam., ellipsoidea, foveolata, aliquot in singulis capsulis.

Holotypus (*Sreemadhavan* 862A) et isotypi (*Sreemadhavan* 862B-C) lecti in collibus Boluvampatti dictis in Distr. Coimbatore in ditione Madras ad altit. 1100 m die 24 septembris anni 1963; holotypus positus ad CAL; isotypi in herbario sectionis australis Bot. Surv. India ad Coimbatore.

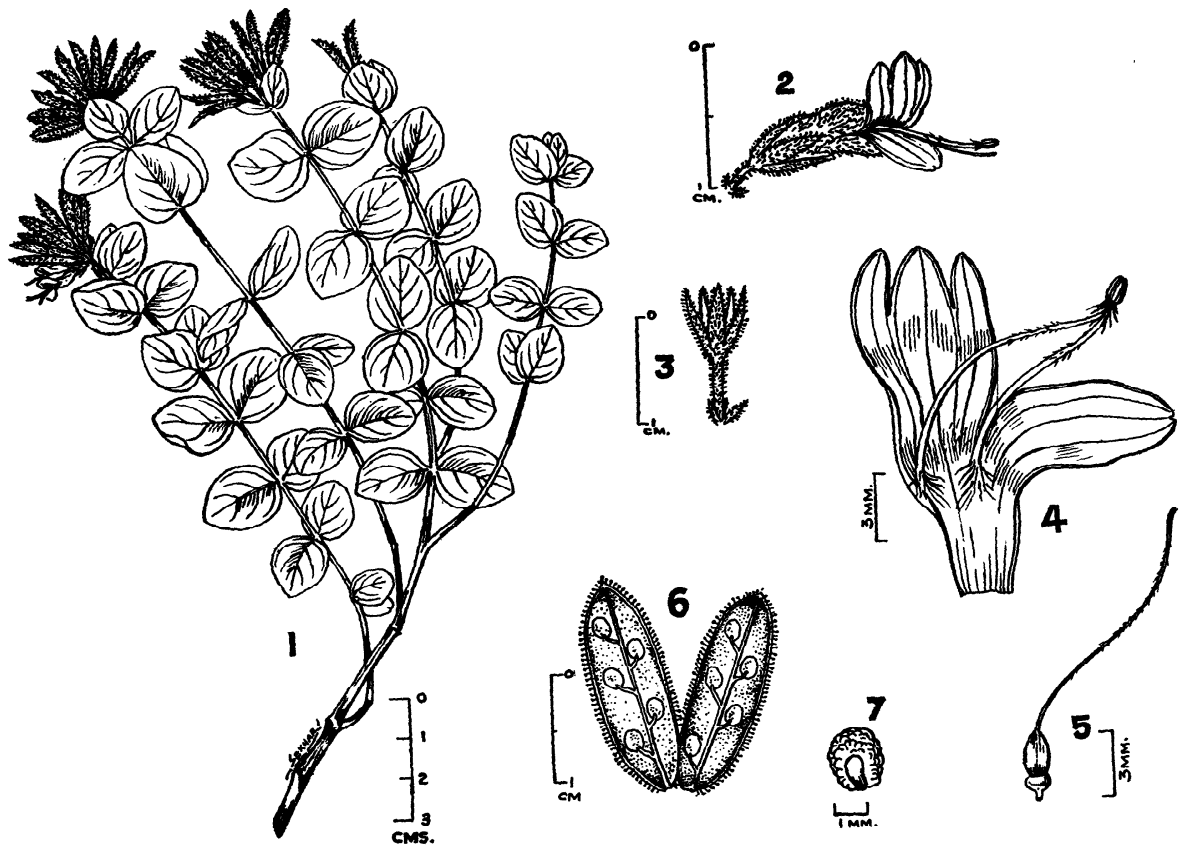
Andrographis neesiana Wt. var. *rotundifolia* Sreem. var. nov., differs from the typical variety in

having stems profusely branched and leaves smaller, very shortly petioled, rounded or suborbicular, obtuse at apex, rounded or subcordate at base with 4-5 pairs of nerves.

Erect herbs, 35-50 cm tall; stems 2-3 mm thick, profusely branched, sparsely scabrescent, more densely so on younger parts, dark greenish black when dry, obscurely 4-angled, often rooting at lower nodes; nodes slightly swollen, densely brownish hairy. Leaves 1.3-3.5 × 1-3.3 cm, opposite, rounded or suborbicular, chartaceous, minutely puberulous on both surfaces, obtuse at apex, rounded or subcordate at base, margins entire with scattered bulbous based hook like hairs; nerves 4-5 pairs; petioles 1-2 mm long, scabrous. Flowers many, in terminal condensed subcapitate panicles; peduncles short, densely glandular-hispid; pedicels 3-5 mm long, slightly elongating in fruit, densely glandular-hispid. Bracts ± 2 mm, ovate-lanceolate, acute, densely glandular-hispid. Bracteoles two, each 1.5 × 0.5 mm, linear-oblong or oblong-lanceolate, acute, glandular-hispid. Calyx-lobes five, each 5 × 1 mm, cleft almost to the base, linear-oblong, acute, glandular-hispid. Corolla 1.2-1.4 cm long, pale creamy-yellow with purple streaks and spots within, ventricose, prominently two-lipped, upper lip slightly bifid, lower prominently three-lobed, densely glandular-pubescent without, less densely so within. Stamens two; filaments densely hispid at the base, sparsely towards the tip; anthers of the two stamens adhering together in bud, ditheous, thecae subequal, white-bearded. Ovary two-celled, elliptic-oblong or oblong, hispid; style hispid throughout; stigma minutely bifid. Capsules 1.8-2 × 0.5 cm, linear-oblong to oblong, densely glandular-hispid. Seeds 2 mm in diameter, ellipsoid, pitted, several in each capsule. (Figs. 1-7)

The holotype of this variety (*Sreemadhavan* 862A) and isotypes (*Sreemadhavan* 862B-C) were collected from Boluvampatti hills in Coimbatore District, Madras State at an altitude of about 1100 m on 24th September 1963; the holotype has been deposited in the Central National Herbarium (CAL), Howrah and isotypes in the Southern Circle Herbarium, Botanical Survey of India, Coimbatore.

C. P. SREEMADHAVAN
Botanical Survey of India, Calcutta



Andrographis nesiana Wt. var. *rotundifolia* Sreem. var. nov.
 Figs. 1-7 : 1. Portion of plant. 2. Flower. 3. Calyx, bract and bracteoles. 4. Corolla (split open) showing stamens.
 5. Pistil. 6. Fruit (split open). 7. Seed.